



MO Fishing

July 2008

Volume 10 No. 7

The July MTFA meeting program will be Thursday, July 3, 2008 at the Nature Center

Michael Kyle will be presenting his adventures on his Alaska Rainbow fishing trip at the meeting. Larry Wegmann will recap the Jolly Mill program presented by Mark Sedotti.

The MTFA also needs to discuss the Christmas present situation, at this meeting.

Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Activities for July 2008

July 3 Regular Meeting @6 PM Springfield Nature Center

From the President:

Item #1

Brian Ellis, VP of Communications of the Southern Council has requested nominations for awards to be given at the fall conclave. I submitted the following two items for nomination.

Man of the Year: Ken Marrow.

Ken is the force behind the Southern Region Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing. After only one year in existence, the Southern Region is the largest active entity in PWHFF. Active programs include Brooke Army Medical Center (San Antonio, TX), Fort Leonard Wood (MO), Memphis VA Hospital (Memphis, TX that serves eastern AR), Harry S. Truman VA Hospital (Columbia, MO), Fayetteville VA Hospital (AR), Houston VA Hospital (Houston, TX), Gulfport /Biloxi VA Hospital (Mississippi). Additionally, we have programs for sure launching this fall in: STL by Ozark Fly Fishers and Fort Hood, TX, by Central Texas Flyrodders.

Club of the Year: Missouri Trout Fishermen Association - Springfield MO.

The MTFA- Springfield group is a concerted team of fly fishing educators. The educational activities of the club include the following:

- 8 Semesters of Fly Fishing and Fly Tying classes at Missouri State University
- 3 Years participating in Springfield Public Schools Solutions Programs bringing fly fishing to At Risk Students.
- 5 years of fly tying exhibitions at Bass Pro Trout weekend
- 10 years of fly tying and casting instruction at Bass Pro Spring Fishing Classic
- 3 years of fly tying instruction at National Hunting and Fishing Days/ Wonders of Wildlife
- 1 year organizing and teaching Women on the Fly
- 1 year Fishing for the Sight Impaired of the Ozarks
- 2 years developing The History of Fly Fishing for Wonders of Wildlife Hunting and Fishing Museum
- 1 year Project Healing Waters- Fort Leonard Wounded Warriors program. The club has a regional reputation for assisting in the promotion of fly fishing through education. When there is an opportunity to impart the rewarding experience of fly fishing, MTFA is a group tha provides experience and talent to promote the sport.

Item #2

Katie Green, a "graduate" of MSU PED 135 fly-fishing class and is President of Helpers United Together. She is the administrator of the MSU's TRIO/Upward Bound program. She will be at our meeting on the 3rd and ask for members willing to help demonstrate and teach of fly fishing on the morning of July 10th.

Stump Speaking in Arrow Rock! FYI

Beverly Johnson Sweeney <tracker@mo-net.com> wrote

Please feel free to forward to anyone who might be interested. Perhaps you might like to let candidates know you would like to hear them here in Arrow Rock! This stump speaking event is sponsored by the Citizens to Protect State Parks and Historic Sites.

Political Candidates Invited For Old-Fashioned Stump Speaking In Arrow Rock.

Candidates for statewide political office have been invited to participate in some old-fashioned stump speaking in Arrow Rock, Mo. at **5 p.m. on Saturday, July 5, on the Old Tavern lawn.**

In the early days of Missouri statehood, Arrow Rock was an important political center and was often host to lively political debates as captured by artist George Caleb Bingham in his 1853 work, "Stump Speaking." Organizers of this year's stump speaking event hope to revive that tradition and give all statewide candidates the opportunity to present their views on issues of importance to rural Missouri. Some of the topics candidates will be encouraged to address are: confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs), heritage tourism, historic preservation, sustainable agriculture and threats to state parks and historic sites. All participating candidates will be given equal time to speak.

The event is free and open to the public. All are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets.

Arrow Rock is located 14 miles north of I-70 at Exit 98 on Highway 41. In 2006, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Arrow Rock one of its Dozen Distinctive Destinations, and in 2008, First Lady Laura Bush named Arrow Rock a Preserve America community. Find more on the Web at www.arrowrock.org, www.friendsar.org and www.mostateparks.com.

Who Wants Ice Cream

June, 8th 2008

The second day ended, the first of our two casting classes went well and after the class the participants all fished a small pond for about an hour. Not the best location for beginning casters, but a few fish were caught and everyone seemed to have fun despite the high humidity and temperature.

After missing both breakfast and lunch I was really looking forward to dinner. A few of the conservation agents were cooking fish with all the fixin's for all the Discover Nature women and the instructors. One of the ladies had told me that last year they served blackberry cobbler. She and her friends walked up to the ice cream parlor and got a big scoop of vanilla to go with it. This sounded real good to me, especially considering my current state of calorie deficiency.

Dinner was served outside under a big tent that was set up the day before. The fish was grilled Tilapia and yes it was as good as it smelled. After my second round through the line, I was starting to conclude that cobbler of any kind was not on the menu. Just as well... probably.

We departed the tent and went back to the class room to tie up a few more flies for tomorrow's class before making our way back to the waters edge and another round of fishing. The water was a lot more clear than the night before and catching was a little slower.

Wonder what time the Ice cream parlor closes. By the time I reached the point a few sun fish was all I had put on the working end of my line. Rod and Kim had caught a few but I didn't know what or how many at the time.

I could see across the little bay that the ice cream parlor was still open. A light pole was up to its knees in high water, not yet quite dark enough to be on yet caught my attention. I fished all around it and back down toward the point with only a small sun fish to show for it. The red and blue neon lights from the ice cream parlor sure made a pretty reflection on the mirror surface of the little bay. Fish on and Rod hooks up a little walleye about the same size as the one I caught the evening before.

"Nice scoop... I mean catch!" that's about the same size as the one I had yesterday.

Kim was standing in about a foot of water on the point and about the time the light turned on, I couldn't take in any longer.

I'm going for ice cream. It's not like we're catching fish anyway. By the time I got my first taste, I was sure I'd made a good decision. I could just make out Kim and Rod across the bay and their rods were under no more stress than they were when I left them. I walked back to the room, showered and was half asleep when Kim came in.

"Catch any more?" I asked.

"About five minutes after you left we got into the white bass; Rod had three in as many casts. A good half dozen each, before they quit us. How was the ice cream?"

"Fine... Just fine!"

Fair winds and following Seas
Kevin Smith

A Christmas Humbug Thing

By Robbie O'Neal

With barely six months before Christmas time, you may have forgotten that guy in a red suit who flies from the North Pole. STOP!!! Call the Police and the INS. His freedoms are now limited. He could be a terrorist!! He can't prove where or when he was born to complete the passport application. (I think it was in Iceland around the 13th century). Anyway, he's without a passport. Then there is the problem regarding his reindeer. He forgot their shots and they are in quarantine. I'm not going to say a thing about the one with the red nose; do you think Santa has ever heard of a Breath-Analyzer? Thank you Mr. Prez (the one in Washington) for saving us from all the celebration.

In lieu of a tree and all that Christmas Cheer that we struggle with each year, the MTFA is having a Christmas Party with good Food and Fellowship.

Mark on your calendar for the **4th of December from 6pm to 9pm at the Springfield Nature Center.** WOW!!! Did you notice that? The Christmas Party is on the same date and place as the regular meeting. What a deal to do everything all in one night. Can we stand the excitement? Also included is a surprise secret entertainment package. Are there going to be presents??? The club will make this decision at a later date.

To add more gloom to the story, our wives after years of trying to teach their husbands to cook realized they were throwing pearls of wisdom to swine. They refuse to labor over a pot luck dinner, and trusting their husbands brings to mind Salmonella. So instead of some great home made cooking, we are going to buy it. At this point I can tell you it's going to cost approximately \$10 per person. The cost may be a little more because our club President is lobbying for Cherry or Pecan pie. Everybody, club members and guest are invited.

Fishers for Hire

By Kevin Smith

June 7th 2008

“We are under a thunderstorm warning at this time! Please go to the lower lobby of the Riverview lodge building!”

So blared the loud speaker of the vehicle with the Windermere security logo on the door. I looked North East at the dark cloud that had just passed, spilling over with a good ground soaker not five minutes before. Lucky for us at that time we were still getting ready to go. Rod Pennington and I sat on the balcony of the lodge waiting for the rain to pass and wondering if Kim Schultz had made it back to our class room before it started. The days trying class over and a little time to make a few casts before dark and here comes the rain.

We had a higher reason to get on the water this evening. Tomorrow one of the Discover Nature classes presented by two Missouri Department of Conservation employees was a fishing preparation and cooking class. For which they need a few fresh fish to cook and for which at the present time they had none. Knowing fishing talent when they saw it... they first asked two conservation agents for help. They had some poor excuse about having to drive back to Jefferson City but lucky for them I overheard the entire conversation and volunteered our services. In a matter of minutes we were hired. Not as guides mind you, oh no much better than that. We were contracted to fish, contracted by the Missouri Department of Conservation to fish. How cool is that?

So now here we are trying to fulfill our FCO, (FCO stands for Fish Contract Obligation, we in the business call it an FCO) and even the weather was working against us. I look back to my rod tip as I hook up another Sun fish. As I add it to the stringer the loud speaker repeats the message to head for cover. I see Kim and he's still casting then up the bank were Rod's rod is bent over, Fish on!

Seeing that there were three fishers not paying attention to the current warning the message changed.

“A tornado has been report to be on the ground near Mac’s Creek and is tracking in our direction. It is estimated to arrive in approximately fifteen minutes. Please move to.....”

Okay now you have our attention and all three of us start in the direction for cover.

As if by cue, half way up the hill the same speaker announces that the warning is over and at the end of the message, I’m sure I heard, “ I told you I could get them to move dude.“

Back to fishing, we had a job to do. Working our way up the north side of the little bay we managed some more sun fish, A few small bass and my first walleye on a fly rod ever. Kim had the best catch of the day, a ten or eleven inch large mouth. At the point and nearing dark, I caught bass, three in a row and a couple more sun fish. It was a job well done. One we could be proud of.

The next morning the two MDC employees and a conservation agent thanked me with a ticket for four bass and a walleye, well under the legal size limit. Just kidding! We keep only sun fish and the class, as I was told later, was quite the success. Thanks to three Fishers for hire. No fishing trip too large, no trip too small!

Fair Winds and Following Seas
Kevin Smith

2008MTFA -Springfield Chapter Officers

President	Larry Wegmann	823-7027
1st Vice President	Charles Gregory	833-3169
2nd Vice President	David Duncan	833-3562
Secretary	Dorothy Prugger	862-9972
Treasurer	Rod Pennington	883-1789

**If you would like to submit for the NL,
Please put MTFA in the subject line.**

Monthly meetings at the Springfield Nature Center.
The first Thursday of the month at 6 PM for Fly tying and 7 PM for programs and business meeting.

Education Chair - Charlie Erickson
Social Chair –Simecek/Collison/Burkhart
Newsletter Editor – Eve Krit-Anderson,
Newsletter Advisory Editor - Kim Shultz
Librarian - Charles Gregory
Equipment - John Prugger
Web Page - Brent Simmons
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CFM/MTFA Contact – Rod Pennington
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